

## **Mabee Merchant, March 22, 1779, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

### **A MEMORANDUM HOW TO FEED A COCK.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> This memorandum is the first piece in the Jackson MSS. in the Library of Congress. Some persons consider it the earliest existing bit of Jackson's writing. In fact, it is not in his handwriting. It is probably a recipe gathered at random and valued for its reference to a sport in which Jackson was much interested. The "Orange Town" mentioned was probably Orange Courthouse, Va. Mr. Frank Nash, of Hillsborough, N. C., assures me that no "Mr. Mabee Merchant" appears in the history of that town, and although the place was the county town of Orange County, N. C., it always had a name of its own and was never called Orange Town, or anything like it.

### **A MEMORANDUM HOW TO FEED A COCK BEFORE YOU HIM FIGHT.**

Take and give him some Pickle Beaf Cut fine 3 times a Day and give him sweet Milk Instead of water to Drink give him Dry Indien Corn that hase been Dryn Up in smoke give him lighte wheat Bread Soked in sweet Milk feed him as Much as he Can Eat for Eaight Days Orrange Town in Orange County

March the 22d 79 Mr. Mabee Merchant